



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Press Release

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Idaho 2009 Potato Crop Revised Up; Idaho 2010 Sugarbeet Production Down 2 Percent

Final disposition numbers show Idaho's 2009 potato crop totalling 133 million cwt, an increase of 1.1 percent from earlier estimates. Field run yield of 415 cwt is 4 cwt more than the previous estimate and 32 cwt more than the 2008 crop's yield. Harvested area for the 2009 crop was 319,000 acres, unchanged from the previous estimate. For the 2010 potato crop, preliminary data from the Potato Objective Yield Survey shows that the Russet Burbank variety accounts for 59.6 percent of the potato acreage planted in Idaho. Russet Norkotah account for 13.6 percent of plantings, and Ranger Russets are 12.7 percent of the total. Alturas, at 1.8 percent, and Frito Lay varieties, at 1.6 percent, complete the top five varieties planted in Idaho for the 2010 crop.

Nationally, production of 2009 fall potatoes is finalized at 394 million cwt, 4 percent above the 2008 crop, but 3 percent below 2007. Final production of potatoes from all four seasons in 2009 totalled 432 million cwt, up 4 percent from 2008 but 3 percent below 2007.

Idaho's 2010 sugarbeet production is forecast to be 5.47 million tons, up 2 percent from the August forecast, but down 2 percent from a year ago. Yield of 32.2 tons per acre is down from 2009's 34.3 tons per acre. Harvested acreage is expected to total 170,000 acres, up 7,000 acres from 2009.

United States' sugarbeet production for 2010 is forecast at 33.1 million tons, 2 percent above the August forecast and 12 percent above 2009. Growers expect to harvest 1.14 million acres, down 5,100 acres from 2009. The yield is forecast at 28.9 tons per acre, up 3.2 tons from 2009. If realized, this will be a record high yield for the United States.

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